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**United States Patent** [19]**Hellemons**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,204,136**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 20, 1993**[54] **PROCESS FOR EXTRACTING COFFEE**[75] **Inventor:** **Adrianus C. M. Hellemons,**  
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Netherlands[21] **Appl. No.:** **690,393**[22] **Filed:** **Apr. 25, 1991**0097466 1/1984 European Pat. Off. .  
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6803767 of 1968 Netherlands .**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**Sivetz et al. "Coffee Technology", 1979. AVI Publish-  
ing Co., Westport, CT. pp. 335-336.*Primary Examiner*—Steven Weinstein*Assistant Examiner*—Anthony Weier[57] **ABSTRACT**

A process for preparing an extract from ground, roasted coffee is described. A primary extract is prepared by exhaustive primary extraction with water or an aqueous solution in one or more extraction cells including one cell to which extraction liquid is supplied. A secondary extract is prepared by secondary extraction with water or an aqueous solution in one or more extraction cells including one cell from which secondary extract is drawn off. The process is conducted so that when the primary extraction cell to which the water or the aqueous solution is supplied has been exhaustively extracted, this cell is connected through to the secondary extraction as an extraction cell from which secondary extract is withdrawn, and the first quantity of extract from the cell connected through, which quantity corresponds approximately to the liquid contents of said cell, is supplied to the primary extraction as an extraction liquid.

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doned.[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**Jul. 13, 1988 [NL] Netherlands ..... 8801775  
Feb. 6, 1989 [NL] Netherlands ..... 8900285[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>** ..... **A23F 5/24**[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **426/594; 426/388;**  
**426/431; 426/432**[58] **Field of Search** ..... **426/594, 388, 431, 433**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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**17 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**